

## REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 13, 15, 17, 19-26 are pending. Claim 14 has been cancelled. Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate limitations from cancelled claim 14. Claims 20-22 have been amended similar to claim 12.

The indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claim 14 is noted.

The rejection of claims 12, 13, 15, 17, and 19-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Garcin (U.S. 5,848,911) is hereby traversed. Amended claim 12 is believed patentable over Garcin in view of the foregoing amendments and in light of the PTO-indicated allowability of claim 14 which is now incorporated into amended claim 12. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 15, 17, 19, and 23 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 12, include further limitations, and are patentable over Garcin for at least the reasons advanced above with respect to claim 12. The rejection of claims 13, 15, 17, 19, and 23 is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Claims 20-22 are patentable over Garcin for at least reasons similar to those advanced above with respect to claim 12 and the rejection is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Claims 24-26 depend on claims 20 and 26 and are patentable for at least the reasons advanced above with respect to claims 20 and 26. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Notwithstanding the above amendments to claims 12, and 20-22 Applicant continues to maintain that the unamended version of claims 12, and 20-22 are novel and inventive with respect to Garcin and other cited references.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Randy A. Noranbrock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Randy" being more prominent.

Randy A. Noranbrock  
Registration No. 42,940

USPTO Customer No. 22429  
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 684-1111  
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile  
Date: November 27, 2006  
KMB/RAN